

2011-12

SYN

**ANNUAL
REPORT**



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SYN is a media organisation run by a community of young people that provide training and broadcast opportunities for young Australians.

BOARD 2011-2012

President	Daniel Pejic
Vice President	Adam Christou
Secretary	Andrew Crook
Treasurer	Marcus Beames (from January 2012)
	Joe Toohey
	Tamzin Byrne
	Georgia Moodie (from April 2012)
	Leonie Morgan
	Sally Whiteman
	Felix Hogan (until May 2012)

STAFF

General Manager	Tahlia Azaria
Assistant Manager	Emma Sharp (until October 2011)
Membership and Administration Coordinator	Kristina Latham (from January 2012)
Education and Training Manager	Nicole Hurtubise (until August 2011)
	Jonathan Brown (from August 2011)
IT and Technology Manager	Chris Hodgen
Accounts Manager	Romney Shuttleworth (October 2011-March 2012)
	Dominic Billings (from May 2012)

OUR VALUES

ACCESS

SYN provides open access for all young people to participate in its community.

INDEPENDENCE

SYN produces content free from commercial and other external pressures.

PARTICIPATION

SYN supports young people to take charge of media creation, training and governance.

DIVERSITY

SYN actively encourages a range of youth perspectives, cultures and ideas.

INNOVATION

SYN celebrates quality, and supports creativity and flexibility in its programming and operations.

SYN offers young people aged 12 - 25 the skills and platforms to be creators, not just consumers, of media.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER

SYN has ended 2011-2012 in a remarkable position, securing our financial base and hiring three new part time staff members to increase the quality and diversity of our content. This has only come about through the tireless efforts of staff, the Board of Management, our trainers and volunteers who all came together to guide the organisation through a period of change.

The organisation entered a new era this financial year with an almost full turnover of core staff led by incoming General Manager, Tahlia Azaria. This transition coincided with the appointment of Dan Pejic to the role of SYN Board President, and while these changes had the potential to slow progress, the effect has been quite the opposite. The Board of Management and staff were instrumental in ensuring a smooth changeover, working hard to conclude the existing Strategic Plan and bring in a new, even more ambitious plan for the next two years.

After almost four years of fantastic service, this year we farewelled SYN's Assistant Manager, Emma Sharp. Emma made a significant contribution to SYN across a number of different areas, and most importantly was a huge support to the thousands of young people that volunteer with us each year. We have since welcomed Kristina Latham to the brand new role of Membership and Administration Coordinator.

SYN also said goodbye to Nicole Hurtubise, who took the Education and Training Department from strength to strength during her three years at SYN. Under the direction of incoming Education and Training Manager Jonathan Brown, the Department diversified its offerings in 2011-12 with the launch of a screen training program and other media learning programs targeted at community groups. The Department put significant steps in place for future growth and continued to host a broad range of students from schools across Victoria through our media education programs. Our talented trainers delivered these programs with expertise and enthusiasm, providing schools and community groups with an experience that ensured they kept coming back to SYN.

As always, SYN's members are the key to the organisation's ongoing success. The past year saw a number of new creative initiatives from volunteers, demonstrating the incredible talent of young people and ensuring that SYN

continues to be at the forefront of media innovation and technology. SYN's Alumni Committee has made sure that no young person crossing the 26 threshold is forgotten, organising regular activities to keep the thousands of ex-SYNers in touch.

A huge focus of the past year has been around consolidation; cementing what we already do and laying the foundations for growth and improvement. We welcomed a renewed five year community radio broadcast licence from the Australian Communications and Media Authority and made significant progress towards establishing a unique digital radio identity. We also embarked on a fundraising project that will see improved facilities and more capacity to cope with the thousands of young people who will participate in our programs in future years.

Capturing the thousands of young people who have been involved in SYN's past, this year we celebrated the launch of *Life of SYN*, a book exploring the digital generation written by Associate Professor Ellie Rennie. *Life of SYN* chronicles the organisation's progress to date, highlighting the many characters that played a part, big or small, in bringing us to where we are today. It also showcases the achievements of young people and how SYN has contributed to the rise of digital media.

SYN's digital media initiatives were also recognised at the annual Community Broadcasting Association of Australia Awards, picking up the Excellence in Training Award for Youth Make the Media, a suite of online media-making tools that can be used by young people, anytime, anywhere.

This year we also confirmed support from the Victorian Government Office for the next triennium, and continued to enjoy the assistance of our fantastic partners, funding bodies, sponsors, schools and the broader youth and community sector in Australia. SYN would not be where it is now without their support and we thank them for continuing to have faith in the opportunities we provide and results we produce.

We are incredibly excited about this new chapter in SYN's life and look forward to working with you next year.

Dan Pejic (President) and Tahlia Azaria (General Manager)

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2011-12 AT SYN



THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS



SYN IS A PROUD MEMBER OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS



FINANCIAL REPORT

2011-12 INCOME STATEMENT

INCOME STATEMENT	2012 (\$)	2011 (\$)
Office for Youth	50,000.00	
Donations	5,412.95	4,882.38
Grants & Partnership Income	168,285.19	164,410.91
Membership Fees Received	9,364.86	6,711.44
Sponsorship Received	16,627.57	22,170.86
Education & Training	136,421.60	152,269.84
Events	4,405.11	7,200.01
Other Ordinary Revenue	7,379.52	2,525.82
Merchandise Sales	987.77	
Production Services	24,300.00	
Interest Received	180.16	2,303.23
Total Income	423,364.73	362,474.49

EXPENSES STATEMENT

EXPENDITURE STATEMENT	2012 (\$)	2011 (\$)
Bookkeeping	1,020.00	2,310.00
Marketing	1,148.91	2,208.64
Affiliations Fees & Services	4,995.91	20,727.54
Amortisation Expenses	14,179.00	14,102.00
Audit Fees	1,800.00	1,500.00
Bad Debts		3,800.00
Bank Fees and Charges	1,294.54	1,170.37
Consultants		500.00
Depreciation – Computer Equipment	7,980.00	8,469.00
Depreciation – Fixtures & Equipment	1,388.00	1,932.00
Depreciation – Studio Equipment	13,304.00	17,216.00
Events	8,690.98	16,299.45
Equipment Purchase	399.08	3,170.53
Hire/rent of Studio & Equipment	6,140.00	
Insurance	14,252.32	6,703.20
IT & Technology	10,830.00	720.00
Licences – other	15,326.20	
Office Admin and Small Equipment	15,380.57	24,912.44
Repairs and Maintenance	7,809.84	3,810.91
SYN Awards		8,121.13
Salaries – ordinary	153,853.01	172,190.07
Grant & Partnership Expenditure		7,795.27
Staff amenities	2,340.42	1,914.58
Staff & volunteer expenses	495.91	
Education & Training	3,282.73	15,336.28
Subscriptions		141.88
Superannuation	13,454.32	13,712.67
Transmission costs	97,800.56	90,926.35
Travel, accom & conference	1,885.43	1,478.96
Contract salaries	47,454.79	80,441.45
Work Cover	745.41	698.50
Website expenses		6,160.00
Prior Year Adjustments		2,746.26
Total Expenses	447,251.93	531,215.48
Net surplus attributable to the association	(23,887.20)	(168,740.99)

BALANCE SHEET

Assets	2012 (\$)	2011 (\$)
Cash assets	246,100.74	57,001.99
Receivables	11,552.05	13,836.03
Total Current Assets	257,652.79	70,838.02
Property, Plant & Equipment	61,811.63	79,881.18
Intangible Assets	9,058.36	23,237.36
Total Non-Current Assets	70,869.99	103,118.54
Total Assets	328,522.78	173,956.56
Liabilities	2012 (\$)	2011 (\$)
Payables	1,253.21	1,159.90
Financial liabilities	440.21	
Current tax liabilities	37,580.57	9,414.03
Provisions	558.77	1,440.41
Other	153,435.00	2,800.00
Total Liabilities	193,267.76	14,814.34
Net Assets	135,255.02	159,142.22
Members' Funds	2012 (\$)	2011 (\$)
Retained surplus	135,255.02	159,142.22
Total Members' Funds	135,255.02	159,142.22

For a full copy of SYN's audited financial statements, please contact the SYN office on 03 9925 4747 or info@syn.org.au



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